

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A DNA-enzyme has been identified against the Tat gene of HIV-I, which has inhibitory action on laboratory-adapted strain of HIV-1 in tissue culture.

(c) Yes, Sir. It has been published in the journal titled "Biochemical Journal" in the year 2000.

(d) This is a promising approach towards development of new anti-AIDS agents. However, it would require further study before its application in the programme.

News-Item, "Indian Red Cross Society Ki Pradhan Mahasachib Ki Niyukti Me Manmani"

3975. SHRI DAWA LAMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Indian Red Cross Society Ki Pradhan Mahasachib Ki Niyukti Me Manmani" which appeared in the Jansatta dated 9th February, 2001;

(b) whether Government will order an enquiry into the affairs;

(c) if so, the time-frame thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The requisite information was called from Indian Red Cross Society. The information furnished by them in their letter dated 16.4.2001 was incomplete and hence the said Society have been again requested to furnish the complete information at an early date. Appropriate action will be taken on receipt of complete information.

Filing of FIR against J. Mitra and Co.

3976. SHRI DAWA LAMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to reply to